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CUBAN REBEL ACTIVITY IN CUBA  
INTERNAL SECURITY - CUBA

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DATE *2/24/94* BY *9803 RAN/JEN*  
*JFK*

On September 18, 1961, a confidential source who was connected with the underground movement to overthrow FIDEL CASTRO in Cuba [redacted] and who is presently residing in Miami, Florida, advised that [redacted] had arrived from Cuba to visit him in late August, 1961. He stated that [redacted] has now returned to Cuba. 2.4

The source advised that [redacted] whose name he did not wish to disclose, has been active in the underground movement in Cuba, both in Havana and in other provinces. He said that [redacted] has been traveling outside Havana on personal business, as well as serving as a courier for several of the underground groups, although he is not personally affiliated with any. The source furnished the following information which he said he had obtained from [redacted] during his visit relative to the present status of the underground movement in Cuba: PROTECTED

Probably the major active and best organized of the underground groups are the 30th of November Movement, Revolutionary Recovery Movement, Revolutionary Movement of the People, and the Rescue Movement. While these are the principal groups, there are countless other similar groups.

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groups which are individually active, as well as being active in collaboration with the above mentioned larger groups. An estimate of the strength of any of the groups would be at best only a guess since no records can possibly be maintained. All of the underground groups work together, however, sharing supplies and information and unity is no great problem since political considerations are of no importance when contrasted to the primary objective, the overthrow of CASTRO.

Underground activity does not yet approach the level which was reached prior to the period of the April 17, 1961 invasion. The repressive measures of the CASTRO regime against the underground brought all such activity to a standstill for some time thereafter. Some underground organizations were literally wiped out, and all were seriously disrupted by the arrests and executions of many members and leaders. The majority of the active members of the underground in Cuba today are living in constant fear that they will be discovered by government agents with the almost certain result being execution. For this reason liaison between members of individual groups, as well as between groups, is a serious problem, and one which has not been overcome to date.

The Cuban people, as a whole, outwardly indicate that they are in favor of the regime, although in private it is believed that only a minority actually continue to look with favor on the present government. It appears that there is more open, widespread dissatisfaction with the regime in some of the outlying provinces than in Havana itself, since there is less government control in those areas.

Despite this fear, the clandestine groups are continuing to meet and plan and to slowly gain new adherents. The steadily deteriorating living conditions in Cuba are forcing those persons who were previously reluctant to

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jeopardize their safety to enter the underground movement. Regarding these living conditions, it is pointed out that along with the steadily increasing lack of the basic foods to which the Cuban is accustomed, many other phases of everyday life are affected. As an example, many operations in the hospitals in Cuba today are being done without benefit of anesthesia.

Members of the Cuban underground are somewhat confused as to their prospects for the future since they feel that they are operating more or less alone and without the possibility or hope of substantial assistance from the exiles in Miami.

Efforts to obtain outside assistance in the way of supplies, such as explosives and detonators, have been, on the whole, disappointing. Consequently, there is little sympathy among the leaders of the underground movement in Cuba for the leaders of the Cuban exiles in the United States, most of whom are considered political opportunists.

The underground movement in Cuba received a terrible set-back as a result of the unsuccessful invasion attempt in April. The underground leaders believed that their organization was an excellent one, which could have been a prominent factor in the invasion attempt if it had only been utilized. They feel now that in time an efficient underground can again be established, and that there is a chance for them to ultimately bring about the overthrow of the CASTRO Government.

Recently the morale of the underground has been harmed to some extent by a rumor which was circulating, particularly in Havana, to the effect that the United States Government policy may be to set up Cuba as a horrible example of what communism will bring, such as the example of East Berlin as compared to West Berlin.

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## CUBAN REBEL ACTIVITY IN CUBA

While the underground is in dire need of supplies of all types, there is no intention of abandoning their efforts, and they will undoubtedly continue to operate as best they can with or without outside assistance.

On September 28, 1961, **SOURCE** Miami, Florida, advised that he had arrived in the United States at Key West, Florida, having traveled in a small boat from Cuba several days ago. **SOURCE** stated that he was born **DATE** in Havana, Cuba, and that he had been an employee of the Cuban Government for a number of years until CASTRO took power in January, 1959.

**SOURCE** advised that for approximately two years he has been active in the underground movement in Cuba, principally in the province of Matanzas. He said that he is presently a member of the underground group known as Directorio Estudiantil (Student Directory), and that he had been sent to the United States to contact some of the leaders of the other Cuban exile groups in Miami regarding possible assistance for the underground in Cuba.

**SOURCE** stated that at the present time there are no major active underground organizations in Cuba. He said that the three most prominent organizations are the Revolutionary Movement of the People (MRP), Movimiento 30 de Noviembre (30th of November), and the Movimiento Democratico Cristiano (Christian Democratic Movement). He said that the MRP and the 30th of November have signed a pact to cooperate with each other, and that he believes that this group, if united, will probably be the most significant underground group in Cuba.

**SOURCE** stated that the Directorio Estudiantil is stepping up its activity in Matanzas Province in conjunction with the operations of the Christian Democratic Movement.

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## CUBAN REBEL ACTIVITY IN CUBA

**SOURCE** stated that at the time he left Cuba in early September, 1961, the MRP and the Movimiento Democratico Cristiano (MDC) were planning to start a program of all-out sabotage to begin in the latter part of September or early October.

**SOURCE** stated that in addition to the above mentioned groups the Frente Revolucionario Democratico (FRD) has some support, although it is not widespread and not as well organized as the above groups. He said that the Movimiento Rescate (Rescue Movement) also has a limited organization which is headed by ALBERTO CRUZ, the General Coordinator.

**SOURCE** stated that he wished to emphasize that while these groups exist, they are all small numerically, including the three most prominent, listed above. **SOURCE** said that the arrests and executions of underground leaders have seriously impaired the organization and operations of all underground groups, and this factor, together with the lack of proper supplies and equipment, had made widespread underground activity impossible as of this date. **SOURCE** stated that despite these handicaps the leaders of the underground in Cuba have not lost hope and, in fact, have confidence that their operations will be stepped up in the near future.

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